



STATE OF MONTANA

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES DIVISION



Brian Schweitzer
Governor

Chief Information Officer

Advisory

October 7, 2009

To: Distribution

Subject: Encryption Technical Standard

The CIO has approved the Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) as the statewide technical encryption standard. AES uses the Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) approved cryptographic algorithm to protect electronic information. This technical standard is effective immediately and applies to all end-user devices.

This decision is consistent with the state's efforts to transition from a products-based approach to a standards-based approach for implementing technology. This technical standard is based on federal standards and will allow flexibility in how the technical standard is applied.

This technical standard falls under the provisions of the Montana Information Technology Act in 2-17-512, MCA that states the Department (of Administration) "...shall establish and enforce statewide information technology policies and standards" and 2-17-534, MCA that states that the department "...shall establish and maintain security standards and policies to implement 2-15-114, MCA."

Please review and submit any comments and feedback to include your best estimate of the impact of these upon your organization, business, and customer base to the Policy Manager at ITSD Service Desk at <http://servicedesk.mt.gov/ess.do> or:

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Advisory Disposition: Retain until rescinded by policy or State CIO.

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